

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN

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## DEACONS' NEWS



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As all of our thoughts turn to summer, the Deacons continue their work within the Church and the community. Funds were approved to assist with the Summer Enrichment Program at *Inspiring Minds*. Every year, over 500 local students benefit from this educational-based program. This Committee also approved funds to help with the snacks for Kids' Kamp. Kathie Trowbridge reported the first month of the Blessing Box is successfully serving people in need. Every week the box is checked and restocked with food and personal and comfort items. The Deacons met on May 19 to discuss plans for the summer months.

Fellowship and Congregational Care continue to work within our Church. The Fellowship Committee is currently planning two upcoming events. On June 8, there will be a reception after worship to celebrate the work and passion of our FPC Choir. Please plan to attend and enjoy a scrumptious strawberry treat. On Juneteenth (6/19) there is a reception after the community service commemorating this important day in America's history. Congregational Care plans a sweet treat for Father's Day. Summer Birthday Greetings are on the way for our *Summer Celebrants*, too. As we enter the *lazy days of summer*, we certainly can count our blessings within our congregation and community.

On May 20, the monthly Lunch/Grocery Distribution took place. It was a busy day with 48 carts of groceries distributed. A lunch of goulash, salad, and Jello was served to 44 attendees. We thank all of the volunteers who make this monthly event possible. We also would like to thank two of our "teen members," Johnna W. and Sophie L. for their help.

Summer Blessings,

Sarah Hirt Buzulencia - Moderator of the Board of Deacons



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ISSUE 2025 VOLUME 6 JUNE 2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WARREN



## CONFIRMATION / NEW MEMBERS



**Benton, Luke, and Blake Beerbower**, sons of Jennifer and Robert Beerbower, are students of Lakeview Schools. Benton is active in band, plays sports, and enjoys video games. Luke is also active in band and plays sports; he enjoys hanging out with his brothers. Blake plays many sports and loves to play with their two cats and dog.



**Dominic and Jacob Ewell**, sons of Caryn and Anthony Ewell and grandsons of Lynnette Devanny, are students of Lakeview Schools. Dominic plays baseball, basketball, and football. Jacob plays baseball and soccer. They are Cleveland baseball fans and have two dogs.



**Gracie Lipscomb**, daughter of Shealeigh and Acea Lipscomb and granddaughter of Janet Williams, is a student at Champion Middle School. Gracie is a cheerleader, plays soccer, is active in band, and is an honor student. She enjoys dance and has been a competitive dancer for eight years.



**Jacquelyn (Jackie) Odille** is the daughter of Shelley Taylor and Nick Odille, granddaughter of John and Sally Taylor, and niece of Holly Taylor Meyer. Jackie recently finished the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Warren JFK School, where she participates in basketball, flag football and is a member of Jr. NHS. She has two cats and is sister to Ian, Addy, Jane, and Paige.





## JUNETEENTH SERVICE

**JUNE 19, 2025 - 7 PM**

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
256 MAHONING AVE NW  
WARREN, OH 44483



The First Presbyterian Church of Warren and its Voices of Micah 6:8 Ministry invite you to attend our **Juneteenth Community Service of Celebration on June 19 at 7:00 p.m.** at First Presbyterian Church. Please join us as we celebrate this important event in our nation's history, which will help us understand the past, recognize opportunities in the present, and build relationships in the community. Many people will participate in the service including Pastor Greg Gillispie, Rev. Charles Daniels of the People's Chapel Church of God in Youngstown, our friends at Free Indeed, and other community leaders. Rev. Daniels will share a message with

us, and a reception will follow the service. We hope you will join us!

*Voices of Micah 6:8 is a welcoming, compassionate small group that acts intentionally to dismantle racism and initiate justice reform. In solidarity, we unite with all God's children through educational opportunities, outreach, service, dialogue with and participation in the diverse cultures of our neighborhood. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly, as we encourage and accept diversity in our work and relationships.*

## WILLARD ADOPT-A-SCHOOL UPDATE

### Birthday Boxes a Great Success

Thank you to all who donated birthday boxes or items to include in them. They have brightened the birthdays of many youth. Don't forget to pray for the staff and students of Willard as we head into the summer. FPC members and friends are so generous, and the Willard students and staff are very grateful.



### WILLARD BLOCK PARTY

Willard students celebrated a successful school year on Friday, May 9. Six students were recognized for exceptional attendance, leadership, grades, behavior, manners, and sense of humor. FPC members served lunch to the students and provided the baskets for those who excelled. Pastor Greg made his first visit to Willard, and a fun afternoon was had by all!! Watch for information this summer about volunteering to work with students next school year.



We are proud to announce the recent high school graduation of one of our FPC family members.

**Johnna Wright**, a recent graduate of Warren G. Harding and daughter of John and Kristina Wright, has earned multiple Academic Excellence Awards. She has also been awarded her Academic letter, 2<sup>nd</sup> year Academic pin, 3<sup>rd</sup> year Academic Lamp and has been on Honor Roll every quarter since Freshman year. She was also inducted into the National Honor Society as a Junior.

She is an active member of the YSU Academic Achievers. This program allowed her to explore new math and science skills, learn how to program in Computer Science, further develop social and emotional skills and learn good financial habits in Financial Literature.

Johnna has been an active member of her local Girl Scout troop for fourteen years and two years as her Service Units Girl Delegate. As an active member of her Girl Scout troop, she has received her Community Service Bar, Service to Girl Scouting Bar, and her 10-year membership pin.

Johnna is a very involved member of First Presbyterian Church of Warren. She helps teach lessons to the Youth Group, volunteers for Kids' Kamp, and assists in the Preschool/ Nursery. She also helps with live streaming church services on Facebook. She was ordained as a Deacon in September 2024. As a Deacon, she works on the Fellowship Committee, where she helps plan and prepare receptions for special events.

Johnna will attend the University of Mount Union in the fall and major in Special Education. With this degree, her goal is to become a High School Special Education Teacher and empower the youth of her community. She would like to reach students who have had similar challenges as she has had in school and help them reach their goals.

## KIDS' KAMP

The Kids' Kamp theme this year will be "What A Mess!" Participants will enjoy a five-day journey of discovering Jesus. Kids' Kamp will be held **June 22 - June 26, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Dinner will be served before each program. If you are interested in helping with Kids' Kamp, please contact Marissa.



**PRIDE SHIRT:** If you would like to purchase a Pride shirt, please sign up in Fellowship Hall by **Sunday, June 8**. They will be ready to pick up on **Sunday, June 15**, before or after worship. Any shirts remaining may be picked up at our booth at the Pride event on **Saturday, June 21**. Shirts will be \$22.00 for S-XL and \$24.00 for 2XL-3XL and are available in black, white, or grey. **Please pay Heather Trowbridge or the Church Office when the order is placed.**

**SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION:** Our next celebration of Communion will be Sunday, **June 1, 2025**, during our regular 10:00 a.m. worship service.

**TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING:** The Deacons will be collecting for the 2¢-A-Meal offering on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**, during our regular worship service. This program provides a channel for Presbyterians to respond to the crisis of hunger at home and abroad.

**FPC WEB PAGE ADDRESS** is <http://www.fpcwarren.org> - come visit us on the 'Net! Our e-mail address is [info@fpcwarren.org](mailto:info@fpcwarren.org).

**LISTEN TO US EVERY SUNDAY MORNING** at 10:00 a.m. on WHTX 1570 AM or 97.7 FM or watch us live on Facebook at First Presbyterian Church of Warren.

**CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** If you or someone you know would like a visit or assistance from Pastor Greg or the Deacons, please call the Church Office.

**MIRIAM ESTHER CIRCLE:** The final meeting for this year's study will be a potluck picnic at the home of M.A. Vlad at **12:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 5**. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

**LOOKING FOR A DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE?** The June/July/August issue of the Our Daily Bread is now available in the hall by the Church Office. These free magazines are compliments of your Board of Deacons.

**VOICES OF MICAH TEA:** Please join the Voices of Micah 6:8 Committee on **Thursday, June 5**, for a tea at **4:00 PM**, as we bring women of our community together to share our successes, concerns, and how we can support one another. Members of our group participated in the High Tea hosted by the YWCA Mahoning Valley on Feb. 20, 2025, at the Upton House in honor of their 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We want to offer the opportunity to extend the dialogue we shared to include others. Please RSVP to the Church Office at 330-393-1524 or email [donnallatessa@gmail.com](mailto:donnallatessa@gmail.com).

**SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY IS AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER!** As a convenience to our parents and families with preschool-aged children, FPC will offer child care during worship throughout the summer. The nursery is available for children infants up to age four. Whether or not you have nursery-aged children, please say Hello to Sarah Torrence, who joined our staff this month to provide care and activities for these youngest members of our worshipping family.

**FPC'S ANNUAL PICNIC** will be **Saturday, July 26**, at Marty and Susan Nadenichek's home. Church Growth will provide chicken, and guests are asked to bring a dish to share. Mark your calendars and look for more information to come.



**THE FPC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** is announcing that applications for 2025 awards are available in the Church Office. Applicants must be completing or have completed one year of post-high school education. The deadline to apply is **July 6, 2025**.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**AMPHITHEATER SUMMER CONCERTS:** Do you like music and supporting the Church financially? Volunteers are needed this summer to collect \$5 from people who want to park in our parking lot for the concerts at the Warren Community Amphitheater. FPC splits the proceeds between Deacons' missions and parking lot maintenance. Please choose a band you want to hear as listed on the sheet in Fellowship Hall and sign up for a shift that night. We need two people for each shift. It is easy to do and a fun way to spend a Saturday evening!

**A Note from the Pastor**

I know I've only been among you as your bridge pastor for a couple of months, but what a full and delightful handful of weeks! I am grateful – to the Lord and to the people of First Presbyterian – for all the warmth and encouragement and support and affirmation you've offered.

This will be the last time I mention this, but I truly deeply benefit when you play my fun little "Introduce Yourself the First 7 Times We Chat" game. Two things about that. (#1) Even if you feel a little tired or repetitive about it, it really does help me get to know 100+ people more quickly. Add a little tidbit about you, your upbringing, your hobbies or your family, if you need a little variety for occasions 5 and 6 and 7. (#2) This is a really good pattern for ALL our newcomers – not just the pastor. A returning worship guest may be known by us simply because they're newer here, but your extra hospitality efforts will emphasize that we want to get to know them too.

As we wrap up the 50-day liturgical season of Easter, we simultaneously move into summer patterns. Some parts of the church calendar will ease during the next couple of months, but there are still some important and beneficial activities on the calendar. Please transfer those items from the church calendar into whatever page or device guides your daily life. (For example, I am really looking forward to my first FPC Kids' Kamp!)

As you travel or explore or adapt your routines during the summer, remember that we have a unique worship opportunity at the church building every Sunday morning year-round. If you are on the road, you can join us virtually from pretty much anywhere with our live streams at 10:00 or catch up with our worship videos anytime 24/7.

Jesus' Peace, Jesus' Joy!  
*Pastor Greg*

**A Church Growth award for FPC, Recalling our Founding Pastor**

Our regional network of Presbyterian congregations, Eastminster Presbytery, gives out an annual Church Growth Award, named in honor of the founding pastor of First Presbyterian Warren, the Reverend Joseph Badger. This year's Joseph Badger Award for Evangelism and Church Growth "comes home" to FPC, as the Presbytery honored this congregation for our efforts to welcome new members and reduce barriers that make it a challenge for newcomers to find a spiritual home here. The certificate was presented during worship on May 18 by our presbytery commissioner Amy Bird to our 2024 Church Growth chairperson, Mary Kilpatrick, and our entire 2025 Church Growth Team.

**We Celebrate Our Wonderful Choir**

Before our sanctuary choir begins its upcoming summer break, we will take special time to honor them for all they add to our worship life. The Deacons' Fellowship Committee invites everyone to a "strawberry"-themed reception at **11:15 a.m. on June 8**. We thank Melanie Vlad, who directs our music ministry, and all of the singers who have invested so many Sunday mornings to prepare and present meaningful music throughout 2024-2025.







# FPC JUNE 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion/2 Cents a Meal 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship	2 10:00 am OA, P 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	3 9:30 pm Al-Anon, MC 7:00 pm NA, MC	4 6:00 pm Relay for Life, FH 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm Church Growth Meeting	5 9:00 pm Prayer Talk, FH 12:00 am Miriam Esther Circle, Vlad's home 4:00 pm VoM Tea, FH	6 Church Office Closed	7 11:00 am AA, MC
8 Pentecost 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Choir Appreciation Reception, FH	9 Kathie Vacation Dave Vacation Day 10:00 am OA, P 11:00 am FPC Vista Fellowship 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 6:30 pm BGA Mtg, FH 7:00 pm AA, MC	10 Kathie Vacation 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 7:00 pm NA, MC	11 Kathie Vacation 5:00 pm Someplace Safe, B 6:00 pm NAMI, P 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm CE Meeting	12 Kathie Vacation 9:00 am Prayer Talk, FH	13 Church Office Closed	14 11:00 am AA, MC 4:15 pm Concert Parking
15 Father's Day 10:00 am Worship	16 10:00 am OA, P 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	17 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 10:30 am Free Grocery/Lunch, FH 5:00 pm Finance, P 7:00 pm NA, MC	18 1:00 pm Crossroads Bereavement Grp, P 6:30 pm AA, MC	19 Juneteenth 9:00 am Prayer Talk, FH 7:00 pm Juneteenth Service	20 Church Office Closed	21 Pride Event, FH 11:00 am AA, MC 4:15 pm Concert Parking
22 10:00 am Worship 5:00 pm Kids' Kamp	23 SPIRE Deadline 10:00 am OA, P 5:00 pm Kids' Kamp 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	24 9:30 am Al-Anon, MC 5:00 pm Kids' Kamp 7:00 pm NA, MC	25 5:00 pm Someplace Safe, B 5:00 pm Kids' Kamp 6:30 pm AA, MC 7:00 pm Session Meeting, FH	26 9:00 am Prayer Talk, FH 5:00 pm Kids' Kamp	27 Kathie Vacation Church Office Closed	28 11:00 am AA, MC 4:15 pm Concert Parking
29 10:00 am Worship	30 Kathie Vacation 10:00 am OA, P 5:30 pm Girl Scouts, B 7:00 pm AA, MC	FH-Fellowship Hall   MC-Mable Culver   P-Parlor   B-Badger Hall   T-Tieffle Lounge				



### FPC Birthdays

06/02

Brianna Wistar  
Maxwell Sasanecki

06/03

Jason Creighton

06/06

Kathi Ensweiler

06/07

Matthew Ward

06/08

Dallas Woodall  
Sarah Ries Palchak

06/09

Mike Buzulencia  
Emma Lipscomb

06/10

Bethany Sasanecki

06/12

Mary Bate

06/13

Andrea Lehman

06/14

Lynn Griffith III  
Indy Meyer

06/15

Addison Schubert

06/16

John Wright III

06/17

Carol Haering  
Rachael Herriman  
Ethan Palchak

06/23

Sally Thomas  
Kristina Wright  
Darcy Hurd

06/24

Michael McKee

06/27

Brandon Holk

06/28

Barbara Wike

06/29

Owen Scrafford  
Kinsley McKee

If we have overlooked anyone's birthday, we apologize. Please contact the Church Office so that we may update our records.

## Happy Birthday